

REMARKS**I. INTRODUCTION:**

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 9, 12, 13, 17, 20 and 23 have been amended, claims 5, 8, 16 and 19 have been cancelled and claim 25 has been added.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9-15, 17, 18 and 20-25 are pending and under consideration. No new matter is being presented and, accordingly, approval and entry of the amended and new claims are respectfully requested.

II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1, 4, 5, 8-12, 15, 16 AND 19-24 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(e) AS BEING ANTICIPATED BY FREEMAN ET AL. (U.S. PATENT NO. 6,068,183):

In the Office Action at pages 2-7, claims 1, 4, 5, 8-12, 15, 16 and 19-24 are rejected for the reasons set forth therein. The rejections are respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

According to claim 1 and column 1, lines 39-44, of the Specification, Freeman discloses a method of delivering advertisement information from a source of advertisement information to a chip card for display on a display element of the chip card. In contrast, the present invention, as recited in claim 1, is a method of providing advertisements by an automatic transaction apparatus (e.g. an automatic teller machine (ATM)) for executing a predetermined transaction with a user utilizing a transaction medium that stores identification information of the user.

An automatic transaction apparatus generally has a printing function to issue a printing, e.g. a receipt, with each transaction. In the present invention, the printing function of the automatic transaction apparatus issues the coupon by printing same on a predetermined sheet, as recited in amended claims 1 and 12.

The printed coupon has merit, since a transaction medium does not need to have a display, as required by the disclosure in Freeman. Further, if the coupon is stored in the memory of the transaction medium, as required by Freeman, when using the coupon in a shop, the shop has to prepare a read-out unit for the stored coupon. The printed coupon of the present invention does not require such preparation, since a user just hands the printed coupon to a salesperson.

Claims 4, 5 and 8-11 depend from claim 1 and inherit the patentably distinguishing features thereof. Claims 15, 16 and 19-24 depend from claim 12 and inherit the patentably distinguishing features thereof. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 4, 5, 8-12, 15, 16 and 19-24 patentably distinguish over Freeman.

III. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 2, 3, 6, 7, 13, 14, 17 AND 18 FOR OBVIOUSNESS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a) AS BEING UNPATENTABLE OVER FREEMAN ET AL. (U.S. PATENT NO. 6,068,183) IN VIEW OF ANGLES ET AL. (U.S. PATENT NO. 5,933,811):

In the Office Action at pages 7-11, claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 13, 14, 17 and 18 are rejected for the reasons set forth therein. The rejections are respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Neither Freeman nor Angles teaches or suggests a method, as recited in claim 1, of providing advertisements by an automatic transaction apparatus that issues a coupon corresponding to the advertisement, after displaying the advertisement, by printing the coupon on a predetermined sheet. Likewise, neither Freedman nor Angles teaches or suggests an automatic transaction apparatus, as recited in claim 12, with an issuance unit issuing a coupon corresponding to the advertisement, after displaying the advertisement, by printing the coupon on a predetermined sheet.

Please note that claims 1 and 12 have been amended herein to include the limitation of issuing a coupon corresponding to the advertisement, after displaying the advertisement, by printing the coupon on a predetermined sheet.

Claims 2, 3, 6 and 7 depend from claim 1 and inherit the patentably distinguishing features thereof. Claims 13, 14, 17 and 18 depend from claim 12 and inherit the patentably distinguishing features thereof. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 13, 14, 17 and 18 also patentably distinguish over Freeman in view of Angles.

IV. CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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